

ABC's of Kindergarten

Mr. Ironing's Class ~ 2017-2018

Please keep this packet the entire school year, so that you may use it as a reference for classroom procedures and information. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thanks!

A Absences: If your child will be absent from school, please call the school attendance line at 317.803.5101 by 9:00am. If your child is feeling ill (feverish, vomiting, visible rash, etc.), please do not send him/her to school. If your child has a fever, please keep him/her home until fever-free for 24 hours. While many of the activities we do at school are hands-on, I will be sure to send any missed work home when your child returns to school.

Arrival & Dismissal: It is important that your child arrive on time each day for school. Car riders will be dropped off at the back of the school and the buses will load and unload from the front side of the building. Please see the school transportation procedures for more information.

Normal School Day

8:40 Students Begin to Arrive

8:50 School Begins

3:50 Dismissal

Wednesday Only (Early Release)

8:40 Students Begin to Arrive

8:50 School Begins

3:20 Dismissal

If there are ever changes in your child's transportation, please let me know as soon as possible. I want every child to arrive safely where he/she needs to be each afternoon.

You cannot just tell your child to inform me of a transportation change. I need a written note or you need to call the front office so they may inform me. Please note I will not change your child's transportation without a written note or notice from the front office. Please do not send transportation changes via email, as I could very well be absent.

B

Back to School Night: Back to School Night has been joined with Kindergarten Orientation this year. You will learn more about our classroom and the curriculum today.

Behavior Management: The following system has been adopted for our classroom and corresponds to our classroom rules...

1. Ready to learn
2. Follow directions quickly
3. Raise your hand to talk
4. Control your hands and feet
5. Ask for permission to leave learning area
6. Use your Tiger PAWS.

All students will begin on "ready to learn" each day. I expect each child to come to school prepared to do his/her personal best. Please help your child succeed by encouraging positive behaviors and attitudes at both home and school.

Similar to a clip chart system, students that break classroom rules will be required to move their photo to the rule that was broken and reflect upon their behavior. Teacher discretion will be used to determine consequences for each rule broken throughout the day. Behavior sheets will be sent home with children that break rules throughout the day.

Birthdays: On your child's birthday, you may send in small items such as pencils and mini erasers, if you wish. You are not required to send in items on your child's birthday. **Please note that food is no longer acceptable for birthdays** – as stated in Franklin Township's district-wide Food Policy. Birthday party invitations are not to be passed out at school – unless every student in class is invited. Parents are free to use the classroom directory instead.

Book Orders: Most months, I will send out Scholastic Reading Club orders. I encourage you to take advantage of this program, especially if you have a limited selection of books at home. These books are reasonably priced and are geared toward your kindergartener! In addition, with each book ordered, we can earn points to put towards new books for our classroom library! More detailed information about ordering from the Scholastic Reading Club will be coming home soon.

C Class Dojo: Our school-wide positive behavior system. More information will be coming home soon.

Class Parties: Our room parent(s) will plan and organize our classroom parties. We will have a Fall (near October 31st), Winter (near Winter Break), and Friendship party (near February 14th) this school year. More information will be sent home as these dates near.

D Dress Code: Please send your child to school in appropriate, comfortable clothes. We will have recess every school day, weather permitting.

Kindergarten Dress Code:

- Shirts cannot be sleeveless for boys or girls
- Shorts and skirts need to be an appropriate length
- Sandals are permitted only if they have a strap in back for support (absolutely no flip flops)
- Wearing shorts under skirts is a good suggestion
- Tennis shoes are required for gym class

E Emergencies: Please be sure that you keep your emergency contact information current and up to date. Notify the school if you have new information or if a family emergency arises.

Extra Change of Clothes: Accidents happen – especially in kindergarten. From a milk spill at lunch, to a paint spill in Art Class, to not making it to the bathroom in time, it is suggested that families send in an extra change of clothes. Fill a gallon baggie with a pair of pants or shorts, a shirt, and a pair of underwear. Label with your child's name. The bag will be stored in your child's cubby for easy access, if/when needed.

F Field Trips: We typically go on three field trips each year. Occasionally, a fourth trip is scheduled. Parents will sometimes be asked to help supervise on these trips. Remember that you must have filled out a background check before assisting with our class in any way. More information will be sent home when the field trips get closer.

Fridays: Each Friday your child will be bringing home the work they completed in class that week. Please remove everything from your child's folder and return the folder to school on Monday. Important papers may be sent home throughout the week, so please check your child's backpack each night.

G Grading: Kindergarten assessments are skills-based. Therefore, letter grades are not taken. The majority of the grading or assessment done in kindergarten is through observation or individual assessments. Papers completed in class will be checked generally with a stamp, star, or sticker. These assignments help to support student learning. Report cards are given at the end of each nine weeks using the following skills-based grading scale:
4: Meets Standard 3: Satisfactory Progress 2: Needs Support 1: Not Mastering Standard

H Helpful Living Concepts: It is important that your child learn these concepts. Please work on these at home.

1. How to fasten/button clothing
2. How to tie his/her shoes
3. How to wash hands (soap & warm water)
4. Saying please & thank you

Homework: Please read over the Homework Policy handout for more detailed information. Each month, Play & Experience-Based Activity Calendars will be sent home – be on the lookout for those. In addition to the activity calendars, occasional Holiday Homework will be sent home via your child's take home folder. Additional homework may be sent home on an as-needed basis.

I Independence: Your child can do a lot more than you think. Look for times to allow them to complete work independently.

J Journaling: Your child will be keeping a journal here at school, but it is also a great idea to encourage them to write in a journal at home. If they have a place at home that is set up for writing (including paper, pencils, pens, and markers), they will be more likely to continue this skill at home.

K Kindergarten Newscast: Look for a link to our classroom newscast (via email, Remind, or our classroom website) every Friday. Mr. Froning will give important information and details specific to our classroom in video format. A traditional paper newsletter will not be sent home.

L Lunch: Kindergarten lunch time: 11:25am

Each child will have a lunch number that he/she will punch in each day when purchasing lunch from the school. We will assist your child with this number the first several weeks of school, but we ask that you also practice at home with the practice sheet. His/her lunch number will be written on the back of his/her nametag to help as well.

You may send lunch money to school in a labeled envelope or you may put money in your child's online account. Please include your child's name and lunch number (in the memo section) if you send in a check. For additional lunch information, please check the school website.

Parents may absolutely join their child for lunch. Please note that fast food is not permitted. (Please wait until at least the 3rd week of school before you join us for lunch; this gives your child time to adjust to our lunch routine.)

M Music: Music is an essential part of our day. We use music daily to help us learn a variety of skills. Encourage your child to teach you these songs and to sing them at home!

N Nasty Weather: All students' homes will be called using Connect-Ed if we close or delay school. You may also listen to local radio stations or view local television stations when inclement weather is predicted. We are listed as Franklin Township Community Schools.

O Online Presence: Our classroom has an online presence so that you may stay connected with us...in addition to finding important information you may need. Connect with us today!

Class Website: mrfroning.weebly.com

Facebook: @mrfroningkinders17

Class Dojo: (See Class Dojo Handout)

Donors Choose: donorschoose.org/mrfroning

Remind: (See Remind Handout)

P Parent Teacher Organization (PTO): Our PTO helps support the school in many ways. They plan many fun events for the children, help out around school, raise money for programs and materials, and simply help our school be the best it can be! I encourage you to join the PTO, volunteer, and take part in the fun events throughout the year.

Parent Volunteers: If the need for parent volunteers arises, more information will be sent home. However, some parents have a special interest or talent, and like to come in and teach the class! If you have something you'd like to share with our class, please let me know!

All volunteers working with children must order a background check. The background check is valid for two years. If you had a child here last year and ordered a background check, it is still valid. If you are new, haven't ordered one in two years, or have never ended up ordering a background check, you must do so to volunteer in the classroom and/or on field trips. Log onto the FTCSC website and click on Human Resources to locate background check information and applications.

Q Questions: Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns at any time. You may call, email, or send a note. Please note I check voicemail before and after school.

Email: brandon.froning@ftcsc.k12.in.us
Class Website: mfroning.weebly.com

Phone: 317.803.5126
Acton Elementary Room 26

R Report Cards: Report cards will be sent home at the end of each nine-week grading period, with the exception of the first nine weeks. The first nine weeks, we will meet for a conference so that I may discuss your child's progress and hand you the first nine weeks report card. I will try to keep you updated on your child's learning as often as I can. If you have questions about your child's progress at any time, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Recess: Kindergartners will have a 20-minute recess daily. We will go outside daily (unless it's raining or too cold)...so please dress your child accordingly. When it gets colder, students without appropriate clothing (no jackets) will not be allowed to join us for outdoor recess. These students will spend time in study hall instead.

Rules: The following rules have been adopted by our kindergarten classroom...

1. Follow directions quickly.
2. Raise your hand to talk.
3. Control your hands and feet.
4. Ask for permission to leave your learning area.
5. Use your Tiger PAWS.

Please share and discuss these rules with your child before school begins. I also ask that you help me by helping your child remember and understand these rules.

PAWS (from rule #5) corresponds with our school-wide character education program. The letters stand for prompt and prepared, act responsibly, work together, and show respect.

S Superstar of the Day: To celebrate each student, we will have a Superstar of the Day! I will let you know ahead of time when your child's special day is upon us. At that time, I will send home a paper that describes what I would like you to send to school with your child. This process takes a while to complete, so please be patient...all students will be Superstar of the Day 😊

Supplies: Please check the supply list for all materials your child will need this school year. Most of the supplies will be used as community supplies – and will be shared with all students. Please do not send markers, colored pencils, pencil sharpeners, or any other art supplies to school with your child unless it is a classroom donation.

As supplies diminish, I may request that you send additional items to school with your child.

In addition, I may send home supply wishes throughout the school year. These supplies are not required, but are simply wishes to enhance our classroom and/or our learning. Thank you in advance for your contributions to our classroom.

T Take Home Folder: Your child's folder will go home and come back to school each day. Please take the time to check your child's folder for important information, from the school or myself, on a daily basis. Each child packs his/her own folder, so if you are missing something you know you should have, please let me know.

Tardiness: It is important that your child arrives on time each day. The tardy bell rings at 8:50am, so your child should be in class and ready to learn by that time.

Toys From Home: Please DO NOT send any toys from home. There may be special days that I ask for the children to bring in special items...these will be the only times that your child may choose to bring an item from home (which may be a toy). We will not be responsible for any lost, stolen, or broken toys.

Transportation: If there is a change in your child's transportation home, you **MUST** send a note or call the office. (See "Arrival & Dismissal" portion of packet for more information.)

U Unique: Each child is unique and special. In kindergarten, we celebrate our differences and similarities. We also learn about different cultures, both inside and outside of our classroom.

V Vocabulary: Your child will be learning many new words this year. We will be learning words in reading, math, science, and social studies. Please use these words at home and help your child understand their meanings.

W Wednesdays: EVERY Wednesday, students will be released early from school. Dismissal will take place at 3:20pm. Please make appropriate arrangements, if needed.

X Xtra Special Classes: Students will participate in art, music, library, and gym. Our Wednesday special class will rotate. Please pay attention to our classroom calendar to know when your child should wear tennis shoes (which are required for gym) and which special will be held on Wednesdays.

Y You: You can help to make your child feel successful this year by reading to your child daily and discussing the school day with them. Asking your child questions helps them to reflect on their learning.

Z Zzzz's: It is important that your child gets a good night's sleep at home...in addition to a nutritious morning breakfast. This will help prepare your child for the fun and exciting school day!